

Message Text

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ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 PRS-01 NSC-10 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2677

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 0364

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, TW, CA

SUBJECT: CHINESE PRESS REPRESENTATION

REF: STATE 23516

1. DEPARTMENT IS CORRECT IN UNDERSTANDING BOTH CNA AND NCNA REPRESENTED IN OTTAWA. EXTAFF EAST ASIA DIRECTOR MOLGAT TOLD EMBOFF NCNA FIRST REPRESENTED IN 1964, PRIOR CANADIAN RECOGNITION OF PRC, AS RESULT NEGOTIATIONS (WITH GOC BLESSING) BETWEEN TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL AND NCNA. THESE LED TO GLOBE AND MAIL BUREAU IN PEKING, AND NCNA OFFICE HERE. SINCE ESTABLISHMENT GOC-PRC RELATIONS, EXTAFF HAS REFUSED NCNA REQUESTS TO LOCATE ITS OFFICES IN PRC EMBASSY.

2. PRESS GALLERY AND PRESS CLUB ARE PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS, ALTHOUGH GALLERY IS IN PARLIAMENT BUILDING. CNA REPRESENTATIVE IS LONG-STANDING MEMBER OF BOTH. NCNA REPS HAVE REFUSED JOIN EITHER AS LONG AS CNA IS MEMBER, AND HAVE PRESSED EXTAFF TO HELP EXPEL CNA. EXTAFF HAS REFUSED PUT ANY PRESSURE ON PRESS ASSOCIATION. MOLGAT SAID HE SAW NO LIKELIHOOD OF RESOLUTION OF THIS IMPASSE.

3. ALTHOUGH NOT MAKING USE OF GALLERY, NCNA REPS DO ATTEND GOVERNMENT BRIEFINGS AND HAVE ACCESS TO GOVERN-
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MENT OFFICES, AS DOES CNA. MOLGAT DESCRIBED NCNA REPS

AS VERY ACTIVE AND WITH EXCELLENT CONTACTS.

4. SITUATION COMPLICATED BY APPLICATIONS FOR LANDED IMMIGRANT STATUS BY CNA REP IN OTTAWA, AND BROADCASTING CORPORATION OF CHINA REP IN TORONTO. EXTAFF UNDERSTANDING IS THAT CNA AND BCC ARE ROC GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, AND CORRESPONDENTS THUS GOVERNMENT AGENTS UNDER CANADIAN LAW. IMMIGRANT STATUS COULD THEN ONLY BE GRANTED IF CORRESPONDENTS TOOK OTHER EMPLOYMENT. MOLGAT CITED NYTIMES ARTICLE TO EFFECT THAT CNA HAD RECENTLY BECOME PRIVATE ORGANIZATION, BUT HAD NO CONFIRMATION.

5. MOLGAT ASKED EMBOFF TO QUERY DEPARTMENT WHETHER CNA AND BCC WERE CONSIDERED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES BY USG, AND WHETHER THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN US REQUIRED TO REGISTER UNDER FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT.
JOHNSON

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